

The service learning project was a great learning experience that taught me a few things: communication, creating a lesson plan as a lecturer to give to an audience, and a fraction of the effort lectures put into their lectures. The project preparation taught me all three of these things. In the preparation, I was to collaborate with my group to actually get the assignment done. Communication in our group was rough, but at the end of the day what needed to be completed was finished. My twin, Declan, also really stepped up to his first opportunity to take initiative and took the role as team leader. He made surveys for our group, so we were all able to be on the same page about everything for this project and did most of the back-and-forth emailing. After the rough communication, our project was done, and I had learned the last two things this project taught me—the actual effort and time needed to create a lesson plan.

Creating the lesson plan on how genetic information is passed down from generation to generation allowed me to connect information from previous classes of mine to relevant material I am currently learning in genetics. It is unlikely that I will forget any of the basics of the material I put up in the presentation due to the “healthy” stress I underwent because of the thought of actually presenting this information to a group of youngsters.

The cancelation was a bitter-sweet event. Us students nearing the end of the semester can become burnt out and a cancelation of a major project is a big weight lifted off of our shoulders. Nonetheless, I was a little bit disappointed that no one signed up for our presentation. I am very interested in learning as much as I can about life’s sciences, and I was looking forward to getting these young kids interested in learning a lesson in the field of science. The cancelation of the actual presentation was a huge relief and a disappointment at the same time.